



# FISH PASSAGE CENTER

1827 NE 44<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 240, Portland, OR 97213

Phone: (503) 230-4099 Fax: (503) 230-7559

<http://www.fpc.org>

e-mail us at [fpctestaff@fpc.org](mailto:fpctestaff@fpc.org)

November 30, 2011

Jay Hesse, NPT  
Thomas Rien, ODFW  
Peter Hassemmer, IDFG

Dear Jay, Tom and Pete:

In response to your comments on Chapter 8 of the Draft Comparative Survival Study (CSS) 2011 Report, we have modified the introductory language of Chapter 8 to reflect the description of the consensus proposal included in your comment letter. In addition, we have added language which describes the future plan for coordination and collaboration between the Comparative Survival Study analyses and reporting of fall Chinook juvenile passage characteristics and adult returns.

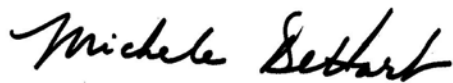
The CSS Oversight Committee guides the implementation of the CSS and conducts the analyses contained in the report. The CSS Oversight Committee members are representatives from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Collaboration and coordination between the Comparative Survival Study Oversight Committee and the Fall Chinook Planning Team are easily facilitated since Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the US Fish and Wildlife Service are active participants on both committees. The CSS is implemented in a public open process. Draft reports and analyses are posted for regional public review each year. As part of the public review, as required by the NPCC Fish and Wildlife Program, the Independent Scientific Advisory Board reviews the draft CSS Annual Report each year and provides valuable technical comments and recommendations. There are many opportunities available to coordinate CSS Fall Chinook analyses with the Fall Chinook Planning Team. Each year the CSS Oversight Committee hosts an Annual CSS Review meeting. This is a public meeting and everyone is welcome to attend and ask questions.

The next CSS Annual Review meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2012 at the Water Resources Center in Vancouver, Washington. In addition, if the Fall Chinook Planning Team would like to discuss CSS fall Chinook analyses with the CSS Oversight Committee, a special meeting can occur. Furthermore, the Fall Chinook Planning Team has full access to the CSS Oversight Committee to discuss technical analyses, questions and recommendations. A joint meeting of the

Fall Chinook Planning Team and the CSS Oversight Committee can be arranged by contacting Michele DeHart at 503-230-4288.

The intent of the CSS Oversight Committee is to conduct fall Chinook analyses consistent with the objectives of the CSS Study. We believe that these analyses will be valuable input to the US v Oregon parties and the Fall Chinook Planning Team as they pursue the objectives of the Consensus Proposal. In this way the CSS efforts regarding fall Chinook analyses provide valuable technical support to the Fall Chinook Planning Team and the successful implementation of the Consensus Proposal of the US v Oregon parties.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele DeHart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Michele DeHart

October 28, 2011

Ms. Michele DeHart  
Fish Passage Center  
1827 NE 44<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 240  
Portland, OR 97213

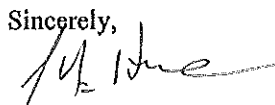
Dear Ms. DeHart:

We offer the following recommendations pertaining to Chapter 8 (Snake River Fall Chinook) of the 2011 Comparative Survival Study (CSS) draft annual report posted on the Fish Passage Center (FPC) website. Snake River fall Chinook salmon are an invaluable resource to the region. Understanding how Snake River fall Chinook salmon are effected by hydropower system operations is imperative to our ability to best manage and realize their recovery. How to best research fall Chinook behavior and survival has been a contentious issue over the past 10 plus years. As such, in 2007 the US v Oregon parties approved a consensus proposal, entitled "*Evaluating the Responses of Snake and Columbia River Basin fall Chinook Salmon to Dam Passage Strategies and Experiences*". The intent of the parties in agreeing to the consensus proposal is for the salmon managers to work together and with the US Army Corps of Engineers on collaborative analyses, which include methods consistent with the CSS.

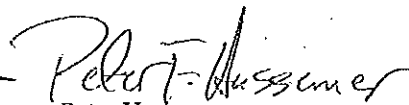
The consensus proposal planning team has been working to develop a phase II draft methods for analysis report that would outline a regionally acceptable method (or range of methods) for analyzing fall Chinook salmon passage strategies. Because we view the work described in the Chapter 8 of CSS draft annual report as an integral part of this methods for analyses report, we request that the report note in Chapter 8 that further development will be coordinated with work being done under the consensus proposal.

We look forward to continued coordination of the work so that the CSS methods are appropriately considered and included as an option in the methods for analysis report being developed under the consensus proposal.

Sincerely,

  
Jay Hesse  
NPT

  
Tom Rien  
ODFW

  
Peter Hassemer  
IDFG